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Implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

Ecuador:* draft resolution

Implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

The General Assembly,

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), including its resolutions 56/206 of 21 December 2001, 65/165 of 20 December 2010, 66/207 of 22 December 2011, 67/216 of 21 December 2012, 68/239 of 27 December 2013, 69/226 of 19 December 2014, 70/210 of 22 December 2015 and 71/235 of 21 December 2016,

Reaffirming its resolution 71/256 of 23 December 2016, entitled "New Urban Agenda", in which it expressed its profound gratitude to the Government and the people of Ecuador for having hosted the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016, and for having provided all the necessary support, and endorsed the New Urban Agenda adopted by the Conference contained in the annex to the abovementioned resolution,

Reaffirming also its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

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for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming further its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[1] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and all parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[2] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

Reaffirming its resolution 71/235 on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat),

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/283 of 3 June 2015, in which it adopted the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, which is an integral part of the New Urban Agenda and aims to achieve sustainable development and substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and States within the next 15 years, thus contributing to sustainable development and poverty eradication,

Reaffirming further the role, expertise and importance of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), given its role within the United Nations system as a focal point on sustainable urbanization and human settlements, including in the implementation, follow-up to and review of the New Urban Agenda, in collaboration with other United Nations system entities,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda[3] and on the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat),[4]

Acknowledging that the implementation of the New Urban Agenda contributes to the implementation and localization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in an integrated and coordinated manner at the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels, with the participation of all relevant actors,

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[1] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.
[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.
[3] E/2016/54/.
[4] A/71/347.

Reiterating the importance of the wide participation of all relevant stakeholders, including local and regional governments, as well as civil society organizations and the private sector in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda,

Recognizing the strong collaboration between UN-Habitat and regional and local governments, including through the United Nations Advisory Committee of Local Authorities and other platforms, working closely with other United Nations agencies, within their mandates and in accordance with national policies and priorities,

Reiterating its recognition that, over the years, the responsibilities of UN-Habitat have changed considerably in scope and complexity with regard to the urban and territorial aspects articulated in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, including in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda,

Recognizing that the realization of the transformative commitments set out in the New Urban Agenda will require enabling policy frameworks at the national, subnational and local levels, integrated by participatory planning and management of urban spatial development and effective means of implementation, complemented by international cooperation, as well as efforts in capacity development, including the sharing of best practices, policies and programmes among Governments at all levels, and in this regard emphasizing the need to improve United Nations system-wide coordination and coherence in the area of sustainable urban and territorial development, within the framework of system-wide strategic planning, implementation and reporting, as stressed in paragraph 88 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General's High-level Independent Panel to Assess and Enhance the Effectiveness of UN-Habitat,[5] which contains recommendations to enhance the effectiveness, efficiency, accountability and oversight of UN-Habitat,

Taking note also of the summary by the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-first session of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the positioning of UN-Habitat in that regard,

1. *Urges* the United Nations to intensify support for the efforts of States to fully implement the New Urban Agenda adopted in Quito in 2016;[6]

2. *Reiterates* paragraphs 166, 167 and 168 of the New Urban Agenda, in which, inter alia, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) was called upon to coordinate the preparation of the quadrennial report of the Secretary-General on progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda;

3. *Recognizes* the importance of promoting and taking concrete action for the full, effective and timely implementation of the New Urban Agenda at the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels;

4. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

[5] A/71/1006.

[6] Resolution 71/256, annex

5. *Urges* the Secretary General, in the repositioning of the United Nations development system, in alignment with its resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016, to address relevant intergovernmental agreements, such as the New Urban Agenda and the urban and territorial aspects of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[7] to ensure that their various mandates are taken into consideration;

6. *Reiterates* the importance of taking the following measures into consideration in order to strengthen UN-Habitat;

(a) Reaffirming the role and expertise of UN-Habitat, within its mandate, as a focal point for sustainable urbanization and human settlements, in collaboration with other United Nations system entities, recognizing the linkages between sustainable urbanization and, inter alia, sustainable development, disaster risk reduction and climate change and in this regard, encouraging UN-Habitat to develop, in close collaboration with other entities of the United Nations system, a system wide framework for United Nations system support for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and to perform other relevant coordination functions in that regard;

(b) Establishing universal membership of the Governing Council of the UN-Habitat and redesignating it as the "United Nations Urban and Human Settlements Assembly", which shall meet every two years in Nairobi with the full participation of all Member States, and shall assume all the current functions and patterns of meetings of the Governing Council unless otherwise decided by the Assembly itself;

7. *Decides* to strengthen the normative work of UN-Habitat in line with the interlinked principles guiding the New Urban Agenda, namely to leave no one behind and to ensure sustainable and inclusive economies and environmental sustainability;

8. *Commits* to strengthening the partnership, coordination, transparency, accountability and resource mobilization functions of UN-Habitat, in accordance with its mandate;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the coordination mechanism for sustainable human settlements and urban areas is fully institutionalized and that the institutional modalities to execute the coordination function are adequately supported;

10. *Affirms* the need to strengthen UN-Habitat's knowledge generation and management capacity, based on its normative and operational work and science-policy interface, building on existing international instruments, assessments and information networks to generate, codify and disseminate evidence-based urbanization knowledge, and to raise public awareness of critical, as well as emerging, urbanization issues;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to reflect, in the budget proposal for the 2020-2021 biennium, resources that take into account the proposed revised programme of work of UN-Habitat, including an increase of the regular budget to permit the full and effective delivery of its mandate, in particular its normative work, as called for in paragraph 129 of the New Urban Agenda, as well as opportunities for increasing the efficient use of resources;

12. *Calls upon* Member States, international and bilateral donors and financial institutions to contribute to UN-Habitat through increased voluntary financial contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements

[7] Resolution 70/1.

Foundation, including the Urban Basic Services Trust Fund, and other technical cooperation trust funds, and invites Governments in a position to do so and other stakeholders to provide predictable multi-year funding and increased non-earmarked contributions to support the implementation of its mandate;

13. *Urges* UN-Habitat to fully integrate its normative work into its operational activities in support of the implementation of the urban dimensions of the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda, and recognizes sustainable urban and territorial development as essential to the achievement of sustainable development and prosperity for all;

14. *Reaffirms* that, by readdressing the way cities and human settlements are planned, designed, financed, developed, governed and managed, the New Urban Agenda will help to end poverty and hunger in all its forms and dimensions, reduce inequalities, promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, in order to fully harness their vital contribution to sustainable development, improve human health and well-being, foster resilience and protect the environment;

15. *Recognizes* the importance of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda at the national, regional and global levels, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national legislation and practices, as well as policies and priorities;

16. *Reiterates* the importance of the Nairobi headquarters location of UN-Habitat and the need to enhance the effectiveness, efficiency and accountability of and the oversight provided by UN-Habitat in support of the implementation of its mandate;

17. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Malaysia for offering to host the ninth session of the World Urban Forum in Kuala Lumpur in February 2018, and reaffirms the role of the World Urban Forum as an advocacy platform for all stakeholders in the fields of human settlements and sustainable urbanization, based on its non-legislative nature;

18. *Encourages* UN-Habitat to strengthen its collaboration with international development banks and the private sector to ensure coherence of policy support and the alignment of large-scale urban investments with the principles of the New Urban Agenda and to facilitate increased investment in sustainable urbanization, building on the Multi-Partner Implementation Facility for Sustainable Urban Development;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-third session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)".